# Voice of the 3rd Quarter 2009, Issue #1 The Official Quarterly Newsletter for Soldiers, Civilians and Families of 36th Signal Battalion serving in the Republic of Korea



### **BN CHANGE OF COMMAND 2 JUN 2009**

Welcome Lt. Col. and Mrs. Mark E. Rosenstein to 36th Signal Battalion. On Tuesday, 2 June 2009 Lt. Col. Harry M. Friberg relinquished command to Lt. Col. Mark E. Rosenstein during the Silent Command ceremony at Kelly Field on Camp Walker. This event marked the official passing of command to Lt. Col. Rosenstein.



Top Photo: Col. Welton Chase Jr., 1st Signal Bde Commander charges Lt. Col. Mark E. Rosenstein with the duty and responsibility as the commander of 36th Signal Battalion at Camp Walker, Korea on 2 June 2009. Above Photo: Major Lan T. Dalat, Commander of Troops for the ceremony salutes the official party during the Change of Command.

**ARMED FORCES DAY IN DAEGU** 

**Fostering Community Spirit** 

Story by Private First Class Bianca Martin

Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> started off gray, but as the day started to heat up, and so did the activities at the Camp Walker Armed Forces Day. The heliport was filled with the sights, sounds and smells of spring. Children and adults alike enjoyed the warm breezy weather and fun activities.

As soon as visitors entered, they were flooded with the aromas of traditional American festival foods. The USO

served hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream cones, and cotton candy. Anthony's Pizza was also on site serving piping hot pizzas, icy beverages, and cookies. With lunch in hand, visitors congregated underneath large tents and ate on picnic benches in the shade. Armed Forces Network was there to supply the entertainment in the form of music while visitors ate.

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### **VOICE OF THE DRAGON**

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Commander/Publisher:
Lt. Col. Mark E. Rosenstein
Editor in Chief:
Maj. Lan T. Dalat
Editor:
Amy De Vries
Public Affairs Officer:
2nd Lt. Bridgette Naveier

HHD Commander: Cpt.. Knight Staff Writer: Pfc. Bianca Martin

169th Signal Co. Commander: Cpt.. Maia Susuico Staff Writer: Pfc. Rivera Rafael

293d Signal Co.
Commander:
Cpt. Spence Calder
PAO/Editor:
1st Lt. Rene Rodriguez
Staff Writer/Photographer:
Spc. Dorothy Gray

501st Signal Co.
Commander:
Cpt. Anthony Reinhardt
Staff Writter:
Spc. Julien Policape

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# DRAGON'S CORNER



Lt. Col. Mark E. Rosenstein, 19th Commander, 36th Signal Battalion



What a true privilege it is for me and Chong to return to the "Land of the Morning Calm" and once again serve in the best Signal Battalion

in the U.S. Army. We are honored to rejoin the Soldiers and Civilians that comprise the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion and be part of the battalion's tremendous legacy of achievement. Chong and I thank everyone for your hospitality and your warm and embracing welcome. Special thanks go to the Mercado's and the Dalat's for helping with our initial transition into Seoul and Daegu.

Since the Change of Command ceremony on 2 June 2009, the battalion has coined a new motto, "Standard Bearers," established a new call sign, "Dragon," and designed a new coin that represents the Battalion and its rich lineage (Korea, Vietnam and Europe). The Headquarters is refreshing its appearance to meet our new motto, "Standard Bearers," and I'm looking at esprit de corps events to

enhance camaraderie and a spirit of teamwork throughout the entire organization. From battalion Hail and Farewells, to Officer/NCO Calls, to quarterly unit cultural trips, to Officer/NCO/Leader development, to a new Chaplain program designed to inspire spiritual health and team-bonding we must strive to empower each other and to simultaneously take care of one another.

The coming quarter brings several key/capstone training events. July brings the Brigade's key train-up exercise, "Warrior Storm," and August brings the UNC/USFK/EUSA premier training exercise, "Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG)." Our team serves a critical role in enabling UFG Command and Control; I have 100 percent confidence in each and every member of our team. Be confident, be a "Standard Bearer!"

As we look to the future, the Command Sgt. Maj. and I plan to establish a monthly awards ceremony that incorporates a review of Maj.or training events 30/60/90 days into the future. We need your help to ensure family members able to attend do so as we want our families to know they

are valued members of the 36th Signal Battalion, "People-Family-Team (PFT)". We've also initiated a merging of the Regional Network Operations and Security Center (RNOSC) with the 169th Signal Company, Network Management (NetMan) section. This new capability will serve as a "Proof of Concept" and model for the eventual establishment of a similar Network Operations (NetOps) capability in the 501st Signal Company. As we continue to improve our "Foxholes and own our Battle Space," we are looking at ways to capitalize on individual and collective strengths of our Soldiers and Civilians as well as our Units and Area DOIMs; both me and the Command Sgt. Maj. know we have the best and brightest in our ranks and the most capable and flexible units in our force structure.

To close I simply want to reiterate how proud Chong and I are to return to the Republic of Korea and re-join the 36th Signal Battalion team. I ask each of you to always think and act SAFELY; travel with a "Battle Buddy" and watch yourselves around alcohol, drugs and other harmful influences; be alert to curfews; treat family, friends and others with Dignity and Respect; and for Leaders to ensure end-of-week, "Under the Oak Tree," counseling is conducted. Who we are as individuals and as an organization is up to us – "If we can dream it, we can achieve it!" – Lets reach for our highest potential and make our assignment in Korea, an experience of a lifetime.

"Standard Bearers"











# BN COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR'S MINUTE

Command Sgt. Maj. Harry Mercado, 36th Signal Battalion, Camp Walker, Daegu



Harry Mercado CSM, US Army Command Sergeant Major

First and foremost I want to thank all of our great Soldiers, KATUSAs, Noncommissioned Officers, Civilians and family members for the great welcome I received. Upon my arrival, the battalion was in the middle of

Key Resolve which allowed me to visit many sites and meet the great people that make up our team, I truly know why this is the best signal battalion in the Army. I look forward to continuing my visits throughout the command.

2009 marks the year of the NCO, the battalion leadership knows what it is to be a Noncommissioned Officer and I am proud of the entire team. The coming months and year ahead will be filled with much excitement and joyful fulfillment, along with realistic training that assist in getting the mission done to standard.

Last month we conducted a silent semaphore change of command in which the entire team executed the mission with

entire team executed the mission with outstanding results. I want to especially

thank the Noncommissioned Officers who made this beautiful and historical day a success with the riches of the Signal Corps.

I want to recognize a few heros, who have exceeded the standards this past quarter. SSG Adriana Atkinson (501st), 1st Signal Brigade NCO of the year and third in NETCOM. SSG Andrew Tenorio (169th) Battalion NCO of the quarter. Spc. Alajiwan Hughes, Battalion Soldier of the quarter, Battalion KATUSA of the quarter Sgt. Shin, In Kyoo (501st). Reenlistments from 293rd SSG Franklin Ball and Sgt. Eric Devlin. Spc.(P) Amber Carter who will be promoted to Sergeant on 1 July 2009.

know that I am honored to be your Command Sergeant Major and serve side by side with each and every one of you. My door is always open to everyone in the Dragon Command.

In closing I want everyone to



"Standard Bearers"



Sgt. 1st Class Omar Rodriguez relays the command to the troops in formation from his signal tower.



Staff Sgt. Andrew Tenorio sends the command through the use of semaphore flags to the signal man on the tower.



Command Sgt. Maj. Mercado provides guidance during the Organization Day in Daegu.









Ribbons Cutting Ceremony of the newly painted Bn Hq.



Moore, Staff Sgt. Atkinson, and Command Sqt. Maj. Mercado cut the

35 years of service.

battalion birthday cake to celebrate its

### **Meaning of the Battalion Coin**

Standard Bearers

Crest: Orange and white are the colors symbolic of the Signal Corps. The lion is from the Arms of Normandy where the Battalion

FRONT participated in WWII. The blue and white bells refers to signaling. The dragon is representative of Vietnam where the Battalion participated in twelve campaigns. The torch and lightning flashes are symbolically of the Signal Corps. Red stands for courage and sacrifice and gold is emblematic of excellence.

**Coin**: Blue signifies vigilance. The Korean characters mean Courage (left) and Sacrifice (right). The coins gold background represents excellence. On the coin are the crests for the Battalion MACOM, NETCOM/9<sup>th</sup> ASC, and Higher HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Signal Brigade. At the bottom of the coin is the Battalion motto, "Standard Bearers."



Campaign Credit: Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Vietnam (Tet)

**BACK** 

Coin: The map of Korea represents Battalion service in Korea and denotes current location of the Battalion HQ, subordinate units and the Battalion Higher HQ, 1st Signal Brigade. Around the top of the coin is listed the year the Battalion was activated in the republic of Korea (ROK) and at the bottom is listed what the coin represents, "A Standard of Excellence." Along the side of the coin is the Korean phrase "Katchi Kapshida" meaning "We Go Together." The RED award at the bottom signifies the two Meritorious Unit Citations the Battalion received.

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# 36TH SIGNAL BATT



Pfc. Timoteo looks out for "Injurgents" during the mounted patrol as part of the combat live fire exercise at Masan Range on 19 May 2009



Maj. McGarry (Rt.) demonstrates positioning and gripping the pistol during the M9 range at Camp Carroll, Waegwan on 26 Jun 2009.



Cpt. Knight receives instruction from Staff Sgt. Fullwood at the M9 Range.









Discavage, 1st Lt. Kim, Chaplain Choi. Lower Rt.: 1st Sgt. Quinones receives the battalion first "Broken Hard Drive Award"



Clockwise: Being farewelled from the battalion are Maj. From If. to rt.: Cpt. Knight, Cpt. Calder, Lt. Col. Rosenstein, Cpt. Reinhardt, and Cpt. Susuico attend the Army Ball South at the Inter-Burgo Hotel EXCO in Daegu on June 6, 2009.



# LIGHTNING CORNER



### Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, Camp Walker, Daegu



Nashuma R. Knight Captain, Signal Corps Commander

Dear Spouses, Family Members, and friends of the HHD, 36th Signal Battalion,

As a fresh and new command team, we are proud to be a part of the "Standard

Bearers" Battalion. We look forward to serving with all of you.

Special thanks goes out to all of the spouses and Family members who have been back on the home front putting in extra hours each day to make ends meet while your loved one is away. We can only imagine how trying these times must be for you. Thank you, and keep it up. It amazes us every day to see how well this fine group of professionals carry themselves and conduct their business in a professional manner.

HHD has been and presently is very busy on a day to day basis. Some of our focuses

over the past month have been PT, Soldier Progression (boards, schools, and promotions), and safety.

Our detachment is currently preparing for Base Defense Training and Ulchi Freedom Guardian in August, further enabling the unit as a whole to be prepared to "fight tonight."

Additionally, we have 4th of July weekend approaching. We entrust every Soldier and every leader to remain safety focused more than ever before. I want every Soldier and

Family member to keep safety and the accountability of personal and unit equipment at the forefront of their mind. Leaders should constantly talk with Soldiers to re-enforce standards and discipline.

Every Soldier, from private to company grade officer, makes us proud every day for the great work and can-do attitudes displayed. Every Soldier, as well as every tasking we complete, is critical to the overall mission accomplishment of our unit. We thank you for the support you have shown.

We would especially like to thank all the Family members for their support whether they are here with their spouse, or back in the states. Your dedication and support is what drives the Soldiers to continue to do great things for this company and the US Army. Thanks to everyone for what they do for the HHD, 36th Signal Battalion and our Nation.

# PCS INFO

Effective June 10, 2009, the individually billed travel charge card can be used for relocation (PCS) expenses! Benefits from this change include convenience of use, eliminating the need to apply for an advance of entitlements, and reduces the dependency on personal funds. You will be required to process through your organization's Agency Program Coordinator (APC) to register for the program. Charges authorized for this program include:

- Transportation
- Lodging
- Meals
- Temporary Quarters
   Subsistence Expense
- Approved House Hunting Expenses

Now cardholders will have the opportunity to use their Government Travel Charge Cards while in a PCS status and enjoy a longer bill pay period.







# **SNAP SHOTS**





### **Fostering Community Sprit**

Top: Father and son learn how to look through the sniper rifle's scope.

Bottom: Kids enjoy riding the Choo Choo Train inside Camp Walker during the Armed Forces Day.

### **Armed Forces Day**

by Pfc. Bianca Martin Cont. from the front Page

The DARE lion, McGruff the crime dog, and the AFN Eagle were on hand to entertain children around the tents.

Guests at Armed Forces Day who made their way to the center of the heliport were able to learn about the military and civil service vehicles that were on display. Children crawled on the massive vehicles and satisfied their temptation to push every button they saw. The fire trucks drew particular attention by allowing children to sit in the driver's seat and blow the horn. Families also enjoyed demonstrations by the fire and police department, and were even allowed hands on experiences with the equipment. Children and adults gathered to witness helicopter and police dog demonstrations eliciting many "oohs" and "awws" of amazement. For little ones who easily tire from walking around the heliport, a Disney themed train toured the outskirts of the exhibits. As the day wore on more and more children flooded the train waving at onlookers and those manning the exhibits.

Those in need of a little shade

moved to the grassy area occupied by the two inflatable castles and a large inflatable obstacle course. Nine year old Kyle Richardson gushed about the obstacle course; "My favorite was the long bouncy thing, we raced through it!" And with no more time to talk, he raced back to the obstacle course for another go. His father, Brian Richardson observed the community spirit that Armed Forces Day facilitated; "Kids have a sort of way of looking past differences and language barriers and just having fun; it's a good way to get to know people and feel more like a community."

For those too old for the inflatable castle and train, the evening culminated with a live rock performance in the Camp Walker Kelly Fitness Center Gym. The California based band, 'Trapt' performed their 2002 hit "Headstrong" among other hits. 'Default', a band from Vancouver British Columbia, rocked the stage with their hits "Wasting my time" and "Deny." After a long day under the sun, people were ready to relax and enjoy the free (and air conditioned) concert. By 8 pm, the festivities were winding down and many went home having spent the day with good friends and having met a couple new ones too.

### ARMY TRADITIONS EXPLAINED

While attending the Army Ball this year, I noticed a vacant table with a candle, a flower, and a wine glass. Can you explain the significance of the table and setup?

The POW-MIA Remembrance Ceremony is a tradition symbolizing the fact that members of the military profession are missing from our midst. The table is set for one and is in a place of honor. The table is small to symbolize the frailty of one prisoner alone against his oppressors. The white tablecloth symbolizes the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms so that their children could remain free. The candle is lit to symbolize the upward reach of their unconquerable spirit. A rose tied with a yellow ribbon reminds us of the families and loved ones of our comrades-in-arms who keep the faith awaiting their return. A slice of lemon is on the bread plate to remind us of their bitter fate if we do not bring them home. Salt on the plate is symbolic of the families' tears while they wait and remember. The glass is inverted because they cannot toast with us tonight; until the day they come home.







# THE TORCH IS LIT



169th Signal Company, Camp Walker, Daegu, Korea



Maia Susuico Capt., Signal Corps Commander

Greetings to all families and friends of the 169<sup>th</sup> Signal Company!

This past quarter (April 2009-June 2009) has been filled with numerous training,

cultural, Espirit de Corps, and team building events.

Several highlights this quarter directly involved Soldiers from the 169<sup>th</sup> SC, such as the Brigade KATUSA of the Year Board, Warrior Leadership Course Graduation, Army Ball and Battalion Change of Command Ceremony. I am very proud of all Soldiers and Civilians of the 169<sup>th</sup> Signal Company. They continue to provide superb customer service to all customers in Area IV.

The Brigade KATUSA of the Year board is a measure of a KATUSA's Soldier knowledge as well as physical and mental endurance; only the very best KATUSAs in the Brigade earn the right to compete for this distinction. Our very own CPL Hyuk Jin Kwon came out victorious from this very competitive board. He went on to compete at the higher level Eighth United States Army board against some of the best KATUSAs in South Korea.

Spc. David Emerson and Sgt. Trent Clark endured a very challenging 30-day NCO professional development course to better prepare them to be effective leaders, with Sgt. Clark graduating with honors. We also attended the annual Army Ball. This event celebrates and honors the Army's rich traditions, history, and heritage. It also serves as a remembrance of our fallen comrades. A good time was had by all.

The Battalion witnessed a historic event with the passing of the Battalion Colors (Change of Command) from outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Harry Friberg, to incoming commander, Lt. Col. Mark E. Rosenstein. This event was especially significant as it included the use of semaphores (signal flags). Long ago, these flags were used as a means of communications by the Army. During the

ceremony, they were used to relay movement commands from the Commander of Troops (COT) to the Soldiers on the parade field. While rarely used today, they do serve as a strong reminder of the importance of communications.

The Torch is Lit!

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

**Staff Sgt. Andrew Tenorio**Bn. NCO of the Quarter Winner

**Spc. Alajiwan Hughes**Bn. Soldier of Quarter Winner

### HAIL AND FAREWELL

The company bids goodbye to the following outstanding Soldiers:

Spc. Steven J. Royster Spc. Kia Xiong

During the same period, the unit welcomes the following Soldiers:

Sgt. Arthur Cooper, Pfc. Chiquita Johnson, Pfc. Carla Gomez, Pfc. Justin Mendoza, Pfc. Eric Vongkayson, PV2 Michael Clark, PV2 Sierra Williams, PV2 Charity Johnson, and PVT Tiffany Tyson.







# ARWY BALL



Lt. Col. Rosenstein and Command Sgt. Maj. Mercado



Privates Rivera, Mendoza and Gomez



Cpt. Knight and 2nd Lt. Navejar

### MY FIRST ARMY BALL

### by Pfc. Rafael Rivera

Some would say the 6th of June 2009 was an ordinary Saturday. However, for others such as myself it was an unforgettable day, and an unforgettable experience. This was my first Army Ball experience. The Army celebrated its 234th birthday. My fellow Soldiers and I were able to experience the Army's traditions and protocols. The night began with the greeting of the Official Party. We met the Host of the Army Ball, Brigadier General Xavier P. Lobeto; the Area IV Commanding General. After his introduction, the party began with a presentation of soldiers dressed in uniforms from Civil War to World War I to our current Army Combat Uniform (ACUs). The night honored the long standing traditions of the Army, and the numerous soldiers that came before us and those that continue to give their

Everyone on the room was filled

"I thought it was a great experience to see

how the Army honors tradition; I have never

seen anything like that before. I really liked

the fact that they had different soldiers

dressed in the different uniforms that our

remembrance of our fallen comrades was

something to think about and remember."

fallen comrades have fought in. The table in

with pride upon the entrance of the Official Party and the Color Guard. A rendition of the Korean and the United States National Anthem filled the air as ball goers somberly listened. As or National Anthem played I was

consumed by a sense of pride and a dedication.

As the ceremony continued, we raised our glasses and honored all of our predecessors who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Once the toasts were concluded, guests of the Army Ball watched an inspiring video which was produced by Maj. Lan Dalat, 36th Signal Battalion's Executive Officer who introduced notable NCOs throughout South Korea to the screen. These NCOs were venerated for their exceptional leadership qualities. The video features various NCOs reciting lines of the NCOs Creed. The event finished with a big bang as Korean traditional dancers hit the stage. It was a night that I and many others will never forget. I felt honored to have the opportunity to witness American and Korean traditions and customs in a common setting. As a junior enlisted soldier, there was much for me to learn and enjoy. It was especially advantageous to meet and interact with those in the Chain of Command, from the Company Commander to a Brigadier General. W01 Johnson, of the 169th Signal Company

also thought the event was an awesome opportunity and stated this was the highlight of my tour in South Korea: participating in one of the Army's long standing traditions and being able to

- Spc. Foulenfont

witness two cultures co-existing in one poignant event.



36th Signal Bn Officers and Soldiers pose for the group photo at the end of the Army Ball South at Inter-Burgo Hotel EXCO

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# THE EAGLE'S NEST



293d Signal Company, Camp Carroll, Waegwan, Korea



Spencer Calder
Captain, Signal Corps
Commander

Soldiers, Families, and Friends of the 293rd Signal Company,

Hello and
welcome on
behalf of the
293rd Signal
Company. I am
Captain
Spencer R.
Calder, the new

commander for the 293rd. I would like to express my excitement to be commanding this company, and from what I have seen it is a company with unlimited potential for Success.

First, I would like to recognize and congratulate the 293rd Running Team on its completion of the Eighth US Army 10 Miler on 20 June. I would also like to give you an idea of what to expect from the month of July. We will be starting the

month off with two 4th of July celebrations; one at Chinhae Naval Base and one at Camp Walker, which kicks off with a Five Kilometer Fun Run. An Ultra-Marathon race (with Half and Full Marathon options as well) will take place in Seoul. I would like to invite you and your families to come join us for any of these events.

After our 4th of July weekend we will be moving into preparation for the theatre-wide exercise in August. Mid month we will be having a Defense Information Systems Agency Performance Evaluation. All-in-all July should not be too hectic. Enjoy your four day weekend, stay safe, and consider taking some personal time this month so you can be fully mission capable during August, for Operation Ulchi Freedom Guardian.

Aquilifer - Lead from the Front

Eagle 6



# STRONG BOND



Chaplain Choi brought the Strong Bonds Marriage Retreat to 36th Signal Battalion in May. Twenty couples participated in the event, which took place at the luxurious Paradise Hotel in Busan, Korea. Lessons focused on two books, Five Love Languages by Gary Chapman, and His Needs, Her Needs by Willard F. Harley, Jr. The direction of the retreat was mostly aimed at affair prevention, and how to "build a relationship that sustains romance and increases intimacy." Participants engaged in lessons on communication, understanding the emotional needs of your spouse, preventing marital difficulties, and conflict resolution. When couples were not in the sessions, families were free to explore the beaches, exciting dining, shops, markets, and Busan's well known aquarium, among other attractions.

### **GOOD NEIGHBORS**







### JUNGANG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Top: Soldiers from 293d Signal Company serve lunch to pupils at the elementary school in the Waegwan area.

Middle: Spc. Jeffrey Box prepares a plate with hotdog for one of the students in line.

Bottom: Spc. Rudolph DaRocha plays soccer with students from the school

### 293d Signal Company: English Lessons at Jungang Elementary School

By: Spc. Dorothy Gray

On June 9, 2009 the Soldiers assigned to the 293<sup>rd</sup> Signal Company made a visit to Jungang Elementary School where they met with students in the sixth grade and spent the afternoon with them.

At 2 pm, eight U.S. Soldiers, three KATUSA's, and one Korean National from the 293<sup>rd</sup> were released from their regular duties to go to Jungang Elementary School. The school is within walking distance from Camp Carroll and most of the volunteers walked to the location. As part of a mutual agreement, the 293<sup>rd</sup> SC planned one day to spend with one half of the sixth grade class in June and the other half in October. They will also visit the school every second Tuesday of each month to help the students learn and improve their

English speaking skills. June's visit included a BBQ and various sports with approximately 80 of the school's sixth graders. The 293rd SC transported a grill and provided hotdogs, chips, and sodas for all of the students. After everyone was fed, several groups formed up to play games. One group took a soccer ball and made their way to the largest part of the field. Another group played a version of Dodge Ball. A third group found another corner of the large school yard to play games like Red Light, Green Light. Soldiers and students participated together in all the activities and there was laughter and fun throughout the afternoon.

293<sup>rd</sup> SC soldiers are looking forward to going back and working with the children each month. Volunteers are rotated to make sure that everyone gets a chance to participate. And the children of Jungang Elementary School are always excited when the 293<sup>rd</sup> SC enters the school grounds.



Students at Jungang Elementary School enjoy their relationship with US Soldiers from 293rd Signal Company, Camp Carroll, Waegwan, Republic of Korea.



# STRYKER'S CORNER



501st Signal Company, Camp Humphreys, Pyeongtaek, Korea



Anthony Reinhardt Captain, Signal Corps Commander

Dear Soldiers, Families, and Friends of the 501<sup>st</sup> Signal Company,

I am Captain Anthony P. Reinhardt, the Commander of the 501st Signal Company and I would like to

personally welcome you all as part of the 501st team. I would like to start by expressing my gratitude for the opportunity to command this unit. The Soldiers, Civilians, and KATUSAs that make up this company are among the best I have served with and I am grateful to have such an incredible team.

This past month has been an eventful one for the 501st; SSG Adriana Atkinson came in 3rd at the 2009 NETCOM NCO of the Year Board and Sgt. Shin In Kyoo came in first at the recent 36th Signal Battalion's KATUSA of

the Quarter Board. 501st Soldiers also continued to help the local community with a visit to the Heavenly Grace Orphanage on June 25th. During the visit Soldiers played games with the children and assisted the staff by helping to make repairs around the orphanage.

July will start with the 4th of July weekend, during the 4 day holiday the company will be hosting a fundraising event on July 5th, selling food and soft drinks in order to raise money for the Soldiers of the 501st. All family members are welcome to join us; the event will be located at the walk-in gate from 6 PM to 3 AM. Later in the month the NCOs will participate in the Camp Humphreys NCO Run and continue to represent the 36th Signal Battalion in Area III. July will also be spent preparing for Warrior Storm II and Ulchi Freedom Guardian '09. UFG is one of the largest military exercises in the world and the 501st plays a crucial role in installing, operating, and maintaining communications for Area III.







Sgt. Shin

I would like to end this letter by personally thanking every member of the 501st Signal Company as well as the Spouses and Families. It is your dedication and support that has made our unit so successful and will continue to drive the unit forward. Please enjoy your 4th of July weekend and stay safe.

"Stryke Hard, Stryke Deep"



# **UPCOMING**

30 July FRG Meeting
27 Aug FRG Meeting
6 September Fundraiser
24 September FRG Meeting
26 September Fundraiser



## **NCO PROFILE**

### **Leading by Example**

by Spc. Julien Policape

In this year of the Noncommissioned
Officer one NCO from 501st Signal
Company is truly leading the way. She has
already fought her way from company
Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter
all the way to Brigade Noncommissioned
Officer of the Year. Staff Sergeant Adriana
Atkinson, from McFarland California, has
placed third in the NETCOM
Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. SSG
Atkinson joined the Army in November of
2001, went to Basic Combat Training at
Fort Jackson South Carolina, attended
Advanced Individual Training at Fort

Gordon Georgia, and now serves as a 25L (Cable Systems Installer Maintainer).

SSG
Atkinson is a versatile NCO, both technically and tactically competent. She

Mr. Yim Chu Yang, SSG Atkinson and Mr. Yi Yong Chu celebrate the moment of success.

was selected as one of only two Soldiers from the 1st Signal Brigade to attend the eight week Basic Installer's Course (BIC) at Fort Huachuca, AZ from April to May this year. She successfully completed the course with a 91% overall score making her a more well rounded technician and able to return and train her Soldiers to the next level.

SSG Atkinson has a strong belief in the Army Values and Warrior Ethos. She believes that the Army values are what every Soldier should live by and that all seven Army values are equally important. But the Army value that means the most to her is duty. Duty is fulfilling

your obligations legally and morally; to do what must be done without being told to do so.

"There are many young
Soldiers in our Army, and many of these
Soldiers never had guidance and
mentorship while growing up. It is our duty
as Noncommissioned Officers to ensure

that we give that
mentorship and
guidance to
those Soldiers. I
believe that every
Army value falls
under duty. For
example, it is
referenced in the
Creed of the
Noncommissioned
Officer that one

implied duty is 'to be loyal to those with whom I serve' The word duty came before the word loyalty." SSG Atkinson said.

Most soldiers that have had the privilege to work with SSG Atkinson say that she is a great Noncommissioned Officer. Corporal Jung describes her as a "very motivated, does her best in every mission, compassionate, and very knowledgeable NCO." Private First Class Gutierrez said "She is a really helpful leader



stated that "She is a driven self-starter type NCO who leads from the front." Which Army Value best describes SSG Atkinson? CPL Jung answered, "Selfless Service. Because even though she has two children, she doesn't use that as an excuse for not getting the mission accomplished. She always places the mission first." Pfc. Gutierrez said "Duty, as she always completes the mission." And SSG Castillo said "Duty, because some other values tie into duty. Her dedication to duty is impeccable and she is always available 24-7."

In her 7 years in the Army, SSG
Atkinson has been stationed at Fort Hood
twice, deployed for a year, and stationed in
Korea twice. She has received numerous
awards including 4 Army Commendation
Medals, 4 Army Achievement Medals, and
2 Army Good Conduct Medals. With all
her achievements and ambition to be the
best, SSG Atkinson definitely sets the
standard for all Soldiers especially those
within the 501st Signal Company to
emulate.

# **FAMILY'S CORNER**

Families of 36th Signal Battalion: Pyeongtaek, Waegwan, Daegu, and Busan

### A Field Day

by Ms. Amy De Vries, FRSA

The Daegu American School held its annual Field Day at Kelley Park on June 9. In this last week of school, the teachers and staff organized an outdoors, fun filled day for students Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Over 300 children enjoyed flag football, tug of war, parachute play, an obstacle course, and other events totaling 12 different stations for the kids to experience. Students were separated by classes with each grade sporting a different color shirt for the event.

Mrs. Sharp, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at the Daegu American School, couldn't say enough about the 30 or so volunteers that made the day a success. "This event really couldn't have happened without them," she said, while supervising a soccer related game. She enjoyed playing the 'Flag-Tag', but definitely thought, "The slingshot water balloons are probably the kids' favorite activity." Squeals and screams

erupted from the water balloon area right on cue, as if to confirm her assertion.

36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion provided a few of those precious volunteers, including Pfc. Cyntcristia Tucker, who skillfully demonstrated to her

class how to run the obstacle course, and Pfc. Sylvia Troop who was responsible for keeping a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class focused on the point of game. "First they wanted

to play boys

against girls, but it seems like all of the games end up turning into a racing game." At a station where students were supposed to throw soaked sponges into buckets, her class decided to

run around instead; "They're going to be good and tired later".

For the students of Daegu American School, the Field Day events were likely a glimpse of what the upcoming summer may hold for them. For some of the volunteers, it brought back memories. "Field Day was the best day of the year...

and even some

of these games are so familiar." As for the teachers, a day outside with their classes was a great way to end the school year. "This is



Pfc. Sylvia Troop with 2nd Graders from Daegu American School

something the teachers voluntarily do, and we really feel like the kids deserve to have a good time."

# **CONGRATS**

Congratulations to the 36 Signal Family Graduates of 2009!

Two of our families have High School graduates from Daegu American School:

TyLicea Myatt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tyrome Myatt (HHD)

Franklin Wright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wright (169)







Chaplain Choi and family were recognized as the Outstanding Volunteer Family of the Year



Monica Blumberg receives the Volunteer Award.

### **Volunteers of the Year, Area IV, US Army Garrison Daegu, Republic of Korea**

Throughout our army community volunteers are needed in order for numerous services to be provided to the community. Among the groups lead by

volunteers in our area are the Family Readiness Groups, the Boy Scouts, Church Groups, sporting teams, and language instruction

"We need your service right now, at this moment in history. I'm not going to tell you what your role should be. That's for you to discover. But I'm asking you to stand up and play your part. I'm asking you to help change history's course."

~ President Barrack Obama 21 Apr 09

classes. Outstanding men and women in the 1st Signal Brigade were invited to attend a special event after dedicating thousands of hours of their free time to the United States Army-Daegu community.

On April 24<sup>th</sup> United States Army Garrison - Daegu held its annual volunteer recognition dinner at Henry's Place on Camp Henry. Soldiers and family members filled the room and enjoyed a delicious dinner provided by Henry's Place staff. The goal of the

evening was to recognize the outstanding volunteers in the Daegu community. It was amazing to see the room full of volunteers and know that this

was just a fraction of the total number of community volunteers. These volunteers include soldiers, KATUSA, contractors, family members, teachers, etc. Several 1st Signal Brigade Soldiers and family members were honored at the banquet.

Colonel Saulnier and Command Sgt. Maj. Abbott recognized Monica Blumberg for her contributions to the 36<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion. Mrs. Blumberg assisted with unit fundraisers, organized and executed Soldier and Family events, specifically the Memorial Day BBQ and the Thanksgiving Luncheon. Mrs. Blumberg was instrumental in the success of so many of the Battalion events.

Stacey Neubig, wife of Cpt. Jason Neubig, HHD, 36th Signal Battalion was recognized by Col Saulnier, Command Sgt. Maj. Abbott, and Mrs. Vincent as the Family member Volunteer of the Year award winner. Mrs. Neubig served as the 36th Signal Battalion Family Readiness Group Leader and Battalion Steering Committee President for the last two years served. She also volunteered her time as the Treasurer of the PTO for Daegu American School and served as the Participation Committee Chair for the Protestant Women of the Chapel and assists with the Friday Night Contemporary Service.

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Lt. Col. Rosenstein, Mark presenting Ms. Kim Myong Soon an award for her efforts in support of the Army Wide Vista migration.



Lt. Col. Rosenstein, Mark presenting Ms. Kim Hae Suk an award for her efforts in support of the Army Wide Vista migration.



Kim Jae Sung, DOIM, was also recognized with an award

# **35 YEARS**

Mr. Kim, Nam Chun, 293rd Mr. Pak, Ki Tak, 169th Mr. Pak, Yang Hwan, 293rd Mr. Cho, Il Chae, 293rd

# 30 YEARS

Mr. Paek, Chong Un, 293rd

# 25 YEARS

Mr. Kim, Tong Chin, 293rd Mr. Pak, Chong Hwan, 293rd Mr. Yi, Ki Son, 293rd

# **10 YEARS**

Mr. Yi, Sang Yop, 293rd

# **5 YEARS**

Mr. Song, Chong Ho, 293rd



### **BRONZE ORDER OF MERCURY**

is Awarded to
Mr. Yi Sang Tae
Mr. Pak Tu Uk

ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL FOR CIVILIAN SERVICE Mr. Yi, Sang Ung, 293rd

### PERFORMANCE AWARD

Mr. Pak, Kyong Ho, HHD Ms. Kim, Sun Tuk, HHD Ms. Pak, Chae Sun, HHD Ms. Chong, Yong Suk, HHD Ms. Cho, Hong Kun, 293rd Mr. Sim, Chun Sop, 293rd Ms. Yi, Chae Sun, 169th Mr. Kim, Hyon U, 169th Mr. Yi, Pyong Kyu, 169th





Commander HQ, 36th Signal Battalion Unit 15026 APO AP 96218

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